

Serial No. 10/518,309

Atty. Doc. No. 2002P03697WOUS

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Amendments to the claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

1.-15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) A contact device for an electrical cable with a cable shield within a cable sheath, comprising:

an arc-shaped contact part that can be fastened around the sheath of the cable and is provided with contact elements that protrude in a radially inward manner,

~~wherein each contact element includes a tip such that during installation of the contact device in a direction of impact that is oriented inwards and in an essentially radial manner, the tip penetrates the cable sheath and produces an electrical contact with the cable shield,~~

wherein each contact element includes a tip to penetrate the cable sheath and produces an electrical contact with the cable shield,

wherein after installation, each contact element is arranged in a direction of impact that is oriented inwards in a substantially radial manner,

wherein the contact part is formed as a cable clip,

wherein a gear ring is formed from radially inward bent edges of the cable clip,

wherein teeth of the gear ring form the contact elements,

wherein the gear ring has a plurality of rigid stops bent radially inward between the teeth, the stops centering the cable when the cable clip is in a fastened state and the stops prevent further penetration of the contact part into the cable when the stops contact the cable during installation.

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17. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 16, wherein the teeth of the fastened contact clip penetrate the cable sheath such that an electrical contact is provided in an essentially concentric area with respect to the longitudinal axis of the cable.

18. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 16, wherein the cable clip is made from a punched and shaped component of sheet metal section.

19. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 17, wherein the cable clip is made from a punched and shaped component of sheet metal section.

20. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 16, wherein the teeth are triangular shaped and the tips are arranged at equal distances apart.

21. (canceled)

22. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 16, wherein each tooth has a tooth height that is smaller than or equal to an overall thickness, wherein the overall thickness comprises the thickness of the cable sheath and the thickness of the cable shield.

23. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 17, wherein each tooth has a tooth height that is smaller than or equal to an overall thickness, wherein the overall thickness comprises the thickness of the cable sheath and the thickness of the cable shield.

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24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 16, wherein the teeth are arranged on the peripheral side over gaps.

26. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 17, wherein the teeth are arranged on the peripheral side over gaps.

27. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 16, wherein contact part and all the teeth are made from one piece and from the same metallic material.

28. (canceled)

29. (canceled)

30. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 16, wherein the contact part is manufactured from a corrosion-resistant material.

31. (canceled)

32. (previously presented) The contact device according to Claim 16, wherein the contact part is fastened to a board of an electrical device using a bolted connection and the cable shield is electrically connected to the ground potential of the board by the contact part.

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33. (canceled)

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34. (currently amended) ~~An electrical device, comprising a support unit for module frames which are connected to each other by shielded electrical cables having cable shields, wherein at least one cable shield is connected to the ground potential of the support unit by a contact device, wherein the contact device comprises~~ A contact device for an electrical cable with a cable shield within a cable sheath, comprising:

a substantially-flat base portion having a bolt fixing;

a rigid arc-shaped contact part connected to the base portion, the contact part for fastening around a sheath of the cable and having contact elements that protrude radially inward;

~~an arc-shaped contact part that can be fastened around the sheath of the cable and is provided with contact elements that protrude in a radially inward manner,~~

wherein each contact element includes a tip such that during installation of the contact device in a direction of impact that is oriented inwards and in an essentially radial manner, the tip penetrates the cable sheath and produces an electrical contact with the cable shield,

~~wherein each tip is equally spaced from each other tip,~~

wherein each tip is equally spaced from adjacent tips,

wherein the contact part is formed as a cable clip,

wherein a gear ring is formed from radially inward bent edges of the cable clip,

wherein teeth of the gear ring form the contact elements,

wherein the gear ring has a plurality of rigid stops bent radially inward between the teeth, the stops centering the cable when the cable clip is in a fastened state.

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35. (canceled)

36. (canceled)

37. (new) The contact device according to claim 34, wherein the stops prevent further penetration of the contact part into the cable when the stops contact the cable during installation.

38. (new) The contact device according to claim 34, wherein after installation, each contact element is arranged in a direction of impact that is oriented inwards in a substantially radial manner.

39. (new) The contact device according to Claim 34, wherein the cable clip is made from a punched and shaped component of sheet metal section.

40. (new) A multi-cable clamp for contact to a plurality of electrical cables, each cable having a shield surrounded by a protective sheath, comprising:

a base portion;

a first arc-shaped contact part extending from the base portion and for fastening around the sheath of a first electrical cable, the first contact part comprising:

a first gear ring having a plurality of contact elements protruding substantially radially inward,

a second gear ring having a plurality of contact elements protruding substantially radially inward,

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a tip provided on each of the contact elements that during installation:

the tip penetrates the cable sheath, and

an electrical contact with the cable shield is made,

wherein the gear rings are formed from radially inward bent edges of the first contact part; and

a second arc-shaped contact part extending from the first contact part and for fastening around the sheath of a second electrical cable, the second contact part comprising:

a first gear ring having a plurality of contact elements protruding substantially radially inward,

a second gear ring having a plurality of contact elements protruding substantially radially inward,

a tip provided on each of the contact elements such that that during installation:

the tip penetrates the cable sheath, and

an electrical contact with the cable shield is made,

wherein the gear rings are formed from radially inward bent edges of the second contact part, and

wherein each gear rings has a plurality of rigid stops bent radially inward between the teeth, the stops centering the cable and preventing further penetration when the clamp is in a fastened state.

41. (new) The clamp according to claim 40, wherein after installation, each contact element is arranged in a direction of impact that is oriented inwards in a substantially radial manner.

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42. (new) The clamp according to Claim 40, wherein each contact part is made from a punched and shaped component of sheet metal section or wherein both contact parts are made from a punched and shaped component of sheet metal section.